



NEWCASTLEBRIDGE

The Newcastle Bridge Club Inc ABN 16 405 302 022

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting
held Saturday 28/09/2024**



NEWCASTLE BRIDGE CLUB INC.

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that there will be an Annual General Meeting of The Newcastle Bridge Club Inc. on Saturday, 28th September 2024, commencing at 11:30 am. It will be held at the Newcastle Bridge Club.

There will be pizzas after the meeting (before the start of the usual Saturday afternoon Bridge session).

Agenda Items

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting dated 23/09/2023**
- 3. Business arising from the 2023 AGM Minutes**
- 4. President's report**
- 5. Business arising from the President's report**
- 6. Treasurer's Report for FY ended 30/06/2024**
- 7. Business arising from the Treasurer's Report**
- 8. Appointment of Lambourne Partners to prepare the accounts**
- 9. General Business**
- 10. Election of Office Bearers**
- 11. Next Meeting**
- 12. Close**



NEWCASTLEBRIDGE

The Newcastle Bridge Club Inc ABN 16 405 302 022

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Location:	THE Newcastle Bridge Club 12 Young Road Broadmeadow NSW	Date:	28/09/2024
Chair:	Jeff Biddlecombe	Time:	11:30 am

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting dated 23/09/2023
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4. President's Report
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6. Treasurer's Report for FY ending 30/06/2024
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Schedule 1: ATTENDEES AND APOLOGIES

ATTENDEES - 39

Ailsa Kearney	Giles Martin	Margaret Moulston
Alison Lea	Ian van Altena	Margaret Sylow
Allan Charlesworth	James Hart	Margaret Vale
Bernie Adcock	Janet Hill	Maria Stoppini
Bernie Atkins	Jeff Biddlecombe	Neil McMaster
Brigitta Kuegler	Jennifer Bissett	Pamela Kyte
Christine Chandler	Judy Halliday	Pamela Robinson
Craig Roberts-Thompson	Julie Butel	Peter Peterson
Cynthia Roberts	Ken Wilks	Phillip Halliday
Diann Miller	Leanne Roberts-Thompson	Prue Haydon
Elizabeth Legovich	Les Brien	Rosalie Broughton
Enza Di Stefano	Libby Haydon	Tony Di Stefano
Gabriel Felkai	Lorraine Forward	Vincia Martin

APOLOGIES - 38

Ali Shah	Jan Maddern	Patsy Norris
Alison Torrance	Jan Nicol	Peter Stanmore
Amanda Falconer	Jenny Fowler	Peter Wheatley
Anne Robinson	Jill Achurch	Philip Robinson
Caroline Carey	Joan Hewson	Robert Ferris
Charles Bowen-Thomas	Joan Wansey	Roger Yandle
Chris Dibley	Jocelyn Pech	Rosemary Reid
David Chapman	Judy Atkins	Roy Hardy
Drew Cowan	Kath Chapman	Sandra Morris
Effie Roach	Kay Deacon	Stuart Roach
G. Rummey	Lesley Bowen-Thomas	Sue McConnell
G. Woods	Mark Loewenthal	Trish Gleeson
Geoff Stafford	Michael Deacon	

AGENDA ITEM

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Jeff welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to the AGM.

As a quorum had been reached, the meeting was declared open at 11:35am.

Apologies were received from 36 members (refer to Schedule 1 on the previous page for the list).

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM DATED 23/09/2023

Jeff Biddlecombe asked if there were any comments regarding the Minutes from the previous AGM. As there were none, Jeff Biddlecombe moved that the Minutes be accepted, Pamela Robinson and Ailsa Kearney seconded the motion. The Minutes had previously been signed by Jeff Biddlecombe at the Committee meeting on 3rd October 2023, subject to approval by members at this AGM.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE 2023 AGM MINUTES

There was no business arising from the 2023 AGM Minutes.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Jeff Biddlecombe)

Jeff thanked everyone for coming to the AGM, then proceeded to give his report for the year (copy included at the end of the Minutes).

Key points covered were as follows:

- Jeff thanked the Committee for their work, including Ken Wilks (Masterpoint Secretary) and Peter Peterson (Tournament Director). Jeff advised that Caroline Carey and Angela Jeffs had decided not to re-stand for the Committee. However, Caroline has agreed to continue with her Facebook posts and poster preparation.
- Jeff expressed appreciation to the members who volunteer to help the Club, including:
 - Dealers (Gary Banauch, Graham Woods, Bernie Adcock, Ken Wilks, Rosalie Broughton, Ian van Altena, Christo Moskovsky and Peter Stanmore).
 - Tuesday night supervisors and helpers (Ken Wilks, Janet Hill, Bernie Adcock, Vincia Martin, Judy Halliday, Rodney Bell, Peter Goodwin, Neil Best and Greg Archbold).
 - Standby players
 - Scorers and playing Directors
- Jeff also made mention of Graham Woods who has assumed responsibility for the management of the dealers and dealing machines. Of special note was Graham's assistance in acquiring and installing a new dealing computer when the motherboard of the old one had failed.
- Jeff mentioned the Beginners Lessons and their importance in bringing new members to the Club. The Supervised session on Monday and the Tuesday night

AGENDA ITEM

session are now bringing in more tables than some of our other session times. Jeff referred to the Monday afternoon, Wednesday morning and Friday sessions and welcomed any suggestions to improve their participation levels. Table numbers overall have still not returned to the pre-COVID level.

- Jeff concluded by wishing everyone a happy time during the fast approaching festive season.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jeff asked if there were any issues arising from his report.

As there was no business arising from the President's report, Jeff moved that the report be accepted, and there was unanimous acceptance

6. TREASURER'S REPORT for FY ending 30/06/2024 (Les Brien).

Les commenced by saying that the notice of the AGM had included the Financial Reports prepared by Lambourne Partners as well as his Treasurer's Report (copy included at the end of these Minutes), and an invitation to submit any questions prior to the AGM. Les advised that as no questions or comments had been received, he would not go through the reports in detail at the meeting but mentioned the following:

- After excluding the unusual items indicated in the table at the beginning of his report, Les advised that the Club made a profit of \$2,061 in the year compared with a loss of \$1,114 in the previous year.
- Les commented that as a Not For Profit organization (hence no profit target or KPIs) it is not necessary to return a profit. Les had reviewed the history of the Club from the website for the April 2024 Committee meeting and concluded that the generosity of the early members helped the Club to get to the sound financial position it is in today.
- The main reasons for lower profit numbers compared with those pre-COVID, are lower membership and table numbers, with expenses largely on target. Les acknowledged the importance of the beginners lessons in bringing new players to the Club.
- There was a big jump in capitation and affiliation charges from the ABF and BNSW respectively this year, and further increases have been advised by the ABF for the next 3 years. As a result, our membership fees for home club members no longer cover these costs. Hence, subscription fees will increase from \$35 to \$40 when they fall due at the end of the year.

Les concluded by thanking the Committee for its assistance.

As there were no questions or objections to his report, Les moved that the reports be accepted, Lorraine Forward seconded the motion which was unanimously supported.

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no business arising from the Treasurer's report.

AGENDA ITEM

8. APPOINTMENT OF LAMBOURNE PARTNERS AS ACCOUNTANTS

Les moved that Lambourne Partners' appointment as accountants to the Club be continued and as such that they will continue to prepare the Financial Statements and advise on regulatory matters as required. All were in favour.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Jeff Biddlecombe then asked members if there were any matters of general business to discuss. Vincia reminded those present that there is a suggestion box available for anyone to submit suggestions for consideration and/or feedback and encouraged members to use it.

There were no comments or questions, so the meeting proceeded to election of office bearers.

10. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Jeff advised that the nominations for the various positions on the committee had been received. As no positions were contested, the following members were duly elected to serve as the next Committee:

President:	Jeff Biddlecombe	<u>Ordinary Members</u>
Vice President:	Vincia Martin	Ailsa Kearney
Treasurer:	Les Brien	Christine Chandler
Secretary:	Julie Butel	Jennifer Bissett

Jeff welcomed Jenny to the Committee and commented that he hoped she would serve for many years.

The roles of Masterpoint Secretary and Tournament Director will be confirmed at the next committee meeting.

11. NEXT MEETING

The date for the next AGM will be left for the incoming Committee to determine but it will probably be in September 2025.

12. MEETING CLOSE: The meeting concluded at 12:00 noon.

CONFIRMED TO BE A TRUE RECORD OF THE MEETING

Moved by:	
Seconded by:	
Signed by:	
Date:	

Newcastle Bridge Club: Annual General Meeting 28th September 2024

Presidents Report

Thanks to everybody for turning up to our 2024 AGM.

As President, and as usual, there are a lot of acknowledgements to go through. Firstly, I would like to thank the committee (Vincia Martin, Julie Butel, Les Brien, Ailsa Carney, Christine Chandler, Angela Jeffs and especially Caroline Carey for her ongoing work with Facebook and her posters, and to the others for the work and extra effort during these times. I would also like to acknowledge the contribution to the club by *our Masterpoint Secretary, Ken Wilks and our Tournament Director, Peter Peterson*. Sadly, we are losing the services of Angela and Caroline from the Committee. However, Caroline will still help out with her posters and Facebook updates.

Any club cannot survive well without the input from volunteers, and I would like to highlight and thank the following:

Our dealers: Gary Banauch, Graham Woods, Bernie Adcock, Ken Wilks, Rosalie Broughton, Peter Stanmore, Ian Van Altena and Christo Moskovsky.

Our Tuesday night supervisors and helpers: Ken Wilks, Janet Hill, Bernie Adcock, Vincia Martin, Judy Halliday, Rodney Bell, Peter Goodwin, Neil Best and Greg Archbold.

Our standby players who assist in giving members the opportunity to get that extra game

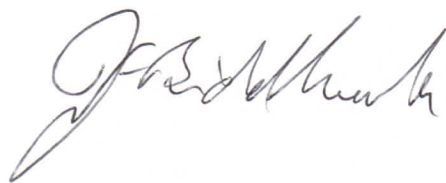
Our Scorers and playing Directors.

I would like to make a special acknowledgement again to our secretary, Julie Butel. Julie has done an admirable job once again, not only in the secretarial duties but filling in for Ken's banking in his absence and generally her devotion to the Club in many unrelated activities. Thanks very much, Julie!

Another person who should receive a special mention is Graham Woods. Graham has taken over the management of the dealers and dealing machine from Rosalie. He was really tested recently when the motherboard on the dealing computer gave up the ghost. As Ken was away (these things seem to happen when Ken is away), Graham organised the replacement of the computer, installation and the setting up of the office computer to do the dealing while repairs were carried out. This was at a time when the internet also went down. Thanks very much, Graham, as we were able to function as a playing club during that time.

We have had a good roll up for our lessons and hopefully we will build up *our numbers from these new members*. Already our Supervised Monday session and our Tuesday night session continually bring in more numbers than some of our other times. We still have not recovered our numbers from before COVID and Wednesday morning, Monday and Friday sessions are losing numbers. I would like to have suggestions on how to improve this situation.

I would like to conclude by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year for the upcoming festivities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham Woods', with a stylized, flowing script.

The Newcastle Bridge Club Incorporated

Treasurer's Report for the 2024 Annual General Meeting

The Club incurred a loss for the year ended 30th June 2024 of \$1,939 compared to a loss last year of \$14,767.

The following table shows the results from operations for the last two years:

	2024	2023
P & L Statement Result	(\$1,939)	(\$14,767)
Long Service Leave charge	(\$4,000)	-
Loss on sale of Investments	-	(\$13,653)
Profit/(Loss) from operations	\$2,061	(\$1,114)

- **Table fees** were \$95,928 (see attached spreadsheet), and whilst this is up on last year (\$87,010), the amount is less than the pre-COVID 2019 level of \$98,042 despite the \$2 increase in table fees from July 2020.
- **Subscription fees** of \$10,030 were slightly up on last year (\$9,780), but still less than the 2017 amount of \$11,325.
- **Interest received** of \$6,742 increased substantially as, as mentioned in last year's report, we disposed of the investments at the end of the last financial year and placed the funds on term deposits.
- **Total income** for the year was \$124,363 compared to \$111,724 last year.
- **Expenses** for the year were \$126,302 as follows:
 - 21% (20%) for employment, including long service leave charge
 - 32% (35%) for occupancy
 - 47% (45%) for administration.

The percentages in brackets refer to those for last year.

- **Long Service Leave charge:** \$4,000.
As Mr Ken Wilks has been employed for ten continuous years, he is entitled to long service leave and accordingly a charge for the estimated liability has been brought to account this year.

The Balance Sheet shows the Club to be in a sound financial position with bank accounts of \$21,541 and term deposits of \$158,823.

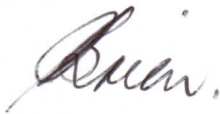
During the 2024 financial year we operated at an average of about **57 tables per week** (about 52 tables per week in 2023) compared to about **78 tables per week in 2019**.

I consider that the 2024 financial year gives us a clearer view of the new "post *COVID normal*" – i.e. *a gradual improvement in participation at bridge sessions and a constant increase in operating costs.*

By way of example, in the 2024 financial year the ABF has increased its capitation fee from \$16.40 to \$20.00 per home member and masterpoint fees by 6%. BridgeNSW (previously NSWBA) has increased its affiliation fees from \$10.00 to \$20.00 per home member. As a result, our home club member subscriptions of \$35.00 did not cover the \$40.00 fees paid to the ABF and BridgeNSW for their capitation and affiliation fees respectively.

The ABF has advised that the capitation fee per home member will increase by \$3.30 for each of the 2025, 2026 and 2027 financial years. Masterpoint fees will also rise. Accordingly, the committee resolved on 13th August, 2024 to increase the home club member subscriptions from \$35.00 to \$40.00 when they next fall due. Subscriptions for other membership categories will remain the same.

My thanks to the committee for its assistance, especially Ken Wilks and Julie Butel.



Les Brien Treasurer 03 September 2024

The Newcastle Bridge Club Incorporated

Table Fees Summary

	2024	2023
Monday Supervised	\$6,890.00	\$5,064.00
Monday Afternoon	\$11,038.00	\$11,532.00
Tuesday Morning	\$23,394.00	\$21,098.00
Tuesday Night	\$7,592.00	\$8,610.00
Wednesday	\$5,844.00	\$6,184.00
Thursday Supervised	\$598.00	\$230.00
Thursday Morning	\$20,284.00	\$17,570.00
Friday	\$11,622.00	\$10,390.00
Saturday	\$8,666.00	\$6,332.00
Total Table Fees	\$95,928.00	\$87,010.00